

Osgood House  
151 Washington Street (Northeast Corner  
of Washington and Broad Streets)  
Norwich  
New London County  
Connecticut

HABS No. CONN-254

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PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction  
143 South Third Street  
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

## OSGOOD HOUSE

Address: 151 Washington Street (Northeast Corner of Washington and Broad Streets) Norwich, New London County, Connecticut

Present Owner: Becker and Goldstein, Plumbing and Heating Contractors, 47 Water Street, Norwich, Connecticut.

Present Occupant: Various renters.

Present Use: Apartment house

Brief Statement of Significance: This is a large, Greek Revival, frame house built about 1850.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

## A. Physical History

1. Original and subsequent owners: Built for Charles Osgood; then to his son, Henry Osgood; then to his son Dr. Charles Osgood.
2. Date of erection: About 1850.
3. Notes on alterations: The rear wing of the house which has an entrance facing Broad Street may be older than the main, front block of the house, but has been extensively altered. The interior has been remodeled into five apartments.
4. Sources of information: D. Hamilton Hurd, editor, History of New London County, Connecticut, with Biographical Sketches (Philadelphia: J. W. Lewis & Co., 1882), pp. 352-353.  
Interview with Raymond B. Case, 12 Mediterranean Lane, Norwichtown, Connecticut, October 26, 1960.  
Interview with Mrs. Albert H. Chase, 1 Sachem Lane, Norwich, Connecticut, October 28, 1960.

- B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure: Charles Osgood, the original owner, was born 1808. Graduated from Yale in 1833, died 1881. He moved to Norwich in 1840 and became a wealthy businessman selling a patent cure for malaria called "Koligog".

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PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural character: This is a large, Greek Revival, frame house, built c. 1850.
2. Condition of fabric: Fair.

B. Technical Description of Exterior

1. Overall dimensions: The main body of the house is two-and-a-half stories high, five bays wide. The lower rear wing, two stories high, is six bays long. The house faces west.
2. Foundations: Cut stone foundations.
3. Wall construction: Frame construction, with flush horizontal boarding on the front and clapboard sides. The house is painted gray with white trim. The main body has flat, enframed pilasters at the corners with paired palmettes at the tops and bottoms.
4. Porches: There is a two-story high entrance porch the full width of the front with six fluted Ionic columns. The gable roof of the house has a gable end to the street carried over the porch to form a pediment. The tympanum of the pediment has a pair of windows in a frame with a large architrave supported by engaged, fluted Ionic columns. The spaces on the sides of the window are filled with a large-scale, applied, flat grape vine ornament.
5. Chimneys: Two brick chimneys in the outside walls.
6. Openings
  - a. Doorways and doors: The main entrance has a small vestibule, with a two-leaf outside door, paneled with small square panels and lighted, and a single leaf, lighted inside door with side lights. The doorway is similar to the window frame in the pediment window above.
  - b. Windows: Double hung windows with single light sash in the front part of the building and six light over six light in the rear and wing. There is a two-story bay window on the south side with four windows on each floor and flat pilasters at the corners similar to those on the house.
7. Roof
  - a. Shape, covering: Gable roof with gable end to street.

- b. Cornice: Full entablature with molded cornice around front and both sides of the building.

C. Technical Description of Interior

1. Floor plans: Originally a central hall type plan, now remodeled into five apartments.
2. Stairways: Main stairway in central hall.
3. Flooring: Hardwood.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster ceilings; paneled and papered walls.
5. Doorways: Elaborate paneled and carved doors.
6. Trim: Heavily carved and molded woodwork.
7. Hardware: Original brass.
8. Lighting: Electric.
9. Heating: Central heating plus fireplaces. Fireplaces are elaborately decorated with classical orders and foliated ornament.

D. Site

1. General setting and orientation: The house faces west on a large, level lot in a residential district.
2. Walks: Flagstone.
3. Landscaping: Informal landscaping with trees, shrubs, and lawn.

Prepared by Osmund R. Overby, Architect  
National Park Service  
October 1960.